Dr. Mathew Lu
UST Department of Philosophy

The Immorality of Religion?:
The New Atheism and Christianity

The last few years have seen a wave of “New Atheist” polemics from the likes of Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens, and others enter the popular imagination. One of their rehashed argumentative strategies has included an attempt to convict religion in general, and Christianity in particular, of being somehow immoral. In this talk, drawing especially on the work of David Hart, I want to examine this charge and consider how it reflects a deep confusion about the nature of moral critique and the structure of our moral grammar.
Philosophy Club Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 30, 2010
NOON—1:00
JRC 222

Join us for the first Philosophy Club Meeting of the year. Come, become informed, meet fellow philosophy enthusiasts, provide input, EAT PIZZA, and be part of this Philosophical Environment. Sapere Aude

Please contact Kim Schumann in Disability Services at 651.962.6315 or kjschumann@stthomas.edu for any accessibility requests.

Questions? Contact Ann M. Hale, Philosophy Department Coordinator at philosophy@stthomas.edu.
Dave Deavel

Associate Editor, LOGOS: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture
Contributing Editor, Gilbert Magazine

Newman on the Great Divide between Secularism & Catholicism

Catholicism, argues Bd. John Henry Newman (1801-1890), has the resources to build alliances with Protestants and defeat militant secularism. Are these resources still viable in the 21st century?

Thursday, October 7, 2010
O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library Leather Room (LIB 108)
Noon – 1:15 pm
Dr. John Buri
UST Department of Psychology

LOVE: What Is It?
Are You Good At It?

For much of human history, the truth about love has been relegated to troubadours, poets, and song-writers. But this is changing. Empirical psychological evidence has much to teach us about the age-old experience of love.

Thursday, October 14, 2010  12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
JRC Auditorium (JRC 126)
Philosophy Club

Join us in exploring how it is we become HAPPY, partake in PLEASURES, and FULFILL OUR LIVES. And, of course, PIZZA.

WHAT IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE HUMAN PERSON IN OUR CULTURE?

Tuesday
10.26.2010
NOON-1:00
JRC 222

Please contact Kim Schumann in Disability Services at 651.962.6315 or kjschumann@stthomas.edu for any accessibility requests.

Questions? Contact Ann M. Hale, Philosophy Department Coordinator at philosophy@stthomas.edu.
WORD LIMIT
3,000 words

ELIGIBILITY
One paper on any philosophical topic per UST undergraduate student

DEADLINE
Submissions must be received before midnight on Tuesday, March 1, 2011
The author’s name MUST NOT appear anywhere on the paper

EMAIL PAPER TO
PHILOSOPHY@STTHOMAS.EDU

COMPLETE GUIDELINES AVAILABLE AT
WWW.STTHOMAS.EDU/PHILOSOPHY/STUDENT/CONTEST/DEFAULT.HTML

1 FIRST PRIZE: $200 and the opportunity to present the paper at the last philosophy colloquium of the year.

2 RUNNERS-UP: Each of the two runners-up will receive a prize of $100.
What is Heroism?

In everyday life the pursuit of virtuous acts often seems like challenge enough. What counts as an act of heroic virtue and why? I will offer a general account of heroism and select examples of heroic acts in response to these questions.

Thursday, November 11, 2010
O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library Leather Room (LIB 108)
Noon – 1:15 pm
Philosophy Club

ALL ARE WELCOME

Join us for an hour of conversation and a bite of pizza.

Tuesday
11.9.2010
NOON-1:00
JRC 222

Kickin' it Old School.

Please contact Kim Schumann in Disability Services at 651.962.6315 or kjschumann@stthomas.edu for any accessibility requests.

Questions? Contact Ann M. Hale, Philosophy Department Coordinator at philosophy@stthomas.edu.
Did Thomas Aquinas Really Say That?:
Constituting Modern Texts from Medieval Manuscripts

Have you ever wondered how the texts you are assigned to read in some of your philosophy courses got from the thirteenth century to the UST bookstore? In this presentation, I’ll discuss how today’s scholars decode and compare medieval manuscripts in order to determine which words should go into the texts that we read today by authors such as Anselm, Aquinas, and Scotus.
Philosophy Club

What's better; Capitalism or Socialism?

TUESDAY 2/15/2011 NOON-1:00 P.M.
JRC 222

All are welcome to join and discuss. Clips from films, Pizza, and the search for the Truth provided.

NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT
SAPERE AUDE

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Questions? Contact Ann M. Hale, Philosophy Department Coordinator, at philosophy@stthomas.edu.
In his Pulitzer-Prize-winning book of 1955, President Kennedy presented us with eight profiles of political courage. Following his lead, in this paper I try to illustrate the virtue of humility by presenting four brief biographical sketches, examples of humility in two different contexts. The first context is that of receiving an assignment to do unglamorous work. The second is that of having committed a grave and very public injustice. I illustrate the first in the lives of French biologist Jean-Baptiste Lamarck and American Revolutionary general Nathanael Greene; the second, I illustrate in the lives of the seventeenth-century Massachusetts judge Samuel Sewall and twentieth-century Alabama governor George Wallace. Humility is a virtue we all need to cultivate. Retelling stories of humble deeds can help us in our efforts to do that.
Dr. Michael Rota  
UST Department of Philosophy

Pascal’s Wager

In this talk I will argue that it is rational to commit one’s life to God, and irrational not to! Roughly speaking, my argument will be this: If you have everything to gain and nothing or very little to lose by doing something, then you should do it. And you have everything to gain and nothing or very little to lose by seeking God and living the sort of life a morally perfect God would want you to live. Therefore you should seek God and live the sort of life a morally perfect God would want you to live.

Thursday, March 10, 2011  12:00 noon – 1:00 pm  
JRC Auditorium (JRC 126)
Quaerentes Veritatem (The Truth Seekers) is a faculty-student interdisciplinary group interested in discussing the intersection of life and thought with faith. It is co-sponsored by the Department of Catholic Studies and the Department of Philosophy.

Quaerentes Veritatem
Tuesday, April 26, 2011
JRC Auditorium (JRC 126)
Noon – 1:15 pm

Please contact Kim Schumann in Disability Services at 651.962.6315 or kjschumann@stthomas.edu for any accessibility requests.

For more information about Quaerentes Veritatem or the event, please contact Dr. Lemmons, Department of Philosophy, rmlemmons@stthomas.edu.

Religious Liberty and Same-sex Unions

Teresa Collett
UST School of Law

Tuesday, April 26, 2011
JRC Auditorium (JRC 126)
Noon – 1:15 pm
FIRST PRIZE: DARIN SCHMIDT
The Most Heavenly Freedom

SECOND PRIZE: BILLY WATSON
The Sleeping Beauty Paradox Resolved and the Reflection Principle: Can One Have Both?

THIRD PRIZE: PAUL ARMSTRONG
The Problem of Infinity as Found in The Antinomy to Pure Reason and Zeno’s Paradox

UST 2010-2011 Philosophy Student Essay Contest Winners